

## Session 15

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### Holistic Disaster Recovery: Creating a More Sustainable Future

#### Revisiting the Principles of Disaster Recovery

Time: 3 hours

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(Slide 15-1)

#### Objectives:

**15.1 Revisit the concepts of sustainable recovery and disaster resilience**

**15.2 Term paper presentations**

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**Scope:** Session 15 is intended to wrap up the course and serve as a forum for students to demonstrate their knowledge of the class materials. Two primary methods are used to accomplish this goal. One, the major themes of the course will be discussed via an interactive class dialogue. Two, each student will present the findings of their term paper. In both cases, it is expected that the students will lead the discussion. The instructor should provide general guidance. It should be made clear that they will be evaluated on their performance and that this is the final opportunity for students to demonstrate their breadth of knowledge concerning what has been discussed throughout the course.

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**Required Reading:** None

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<b>Objective</b>	<b>15.1 Revisit the concepts of sustainable recovery and disaster Resilience</b>
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(Slide 15-2)

The depth to which the instructor and students revisit concepts addressed throughout the course will depend to great extent on the number of students in the course and the format of student presentations. The primary intent of this session is to hear and discuss the material included in each student's term paper presentation. If time allows, the *students* should facilitate a round table discussion of what was discussed throughout the semester. The course dialogue should be interactive, with all members of the class expected to participate.

Students should bring with them to class any notes or materials they believe are necessary to engage in a meaningful discussion of the topics and course objectives presented during the course. If necessary, the instructor may enhance the discussion with topics that he or she believes are worthy of discussion. **Examples of topics may include:**

- Discuss the primary tenets of sustainability and how they relate to disaster recovery;
- Discuss the degree to which sustainability has been integrated into disaster recovery at the federal, state and local levels of government;
- Discuss horizontal and vertical integration, including how they facilitate a sustainable recovery;
- Discuss the factors that shape decision making in recovery;
- Discuss the primary facilitators and impediments of a sustainable recovery;
- Identify particular topics that were not addressed in the course, but merit attention today and in future courses addressing sustainable recovery; and
- What teaching methods proved particularly effective in conveying course topics?
  - Course lecture;
  - Role playing exercises;
  - Course readings;
  - Class discussions; and
  - Take home exams

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## Objective 15.2 Term paper presentations

### (Slide 15-3)

Each student is expected to present the findings of their term paper to the class. Presentations, as described in the course syllabus, should be no more than 30 minutes in length, followed by a 15 minute question and answer session.<sup>1</sup> Each student presenter should provide the instructor and all classmates an outline of the paper prior to the presentation.

#### Students will be evaluated in the following manner:

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| • Overall quality of their presentation  | 30% |
| • The degree to which the presentation conveys the central theme of the paper  | 20% |
| • The degree to which the paper integrated material covered in the course or went beyond current research in the field | 30% |
| • The ability of the student to answer questions raised following their presentation                                   | 10% |
| • The quality of questions posed to other presenters   | 10% |

***Student Instructions:*** Students should formulate questions during each presentation. Remember, each student will be evaluated not only by the content of their paper, the quality of the presentation, the ability to integrate course topics and the ability to answer questions posed by others. They will also be assessed based on the questions posed to others.

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<sup>1</sup> The instructor should decide if the presentation should be in a PowerPoint format or a standard narrative presentation. Students who are not presenting are expected to critically evaluate each presentation. Following the completion of each presentation, students should be prepared to ask questions of the presenter based on the material discussed. Whenever possible, questions should consider the information discussed throughout the course and its relevance to the presentation.